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Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 1981-82

Saskatchewan Urban Affairs

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Letters of Transmittal

The Honourable C. Irwin McIntosh,
Lieutenant Governor,
Province of Saskatchewan

Sir:

I have the honour of submitting the annual report of the Department of Urban Affairs for the year ending March 31, 1982.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Schoenhals,
Minister of Urban Affairs.

Paul Schoenhals

The Honourable Paul J. Schoenhals,
Minister of Urban Affairs,
Regina, Saskatchewan

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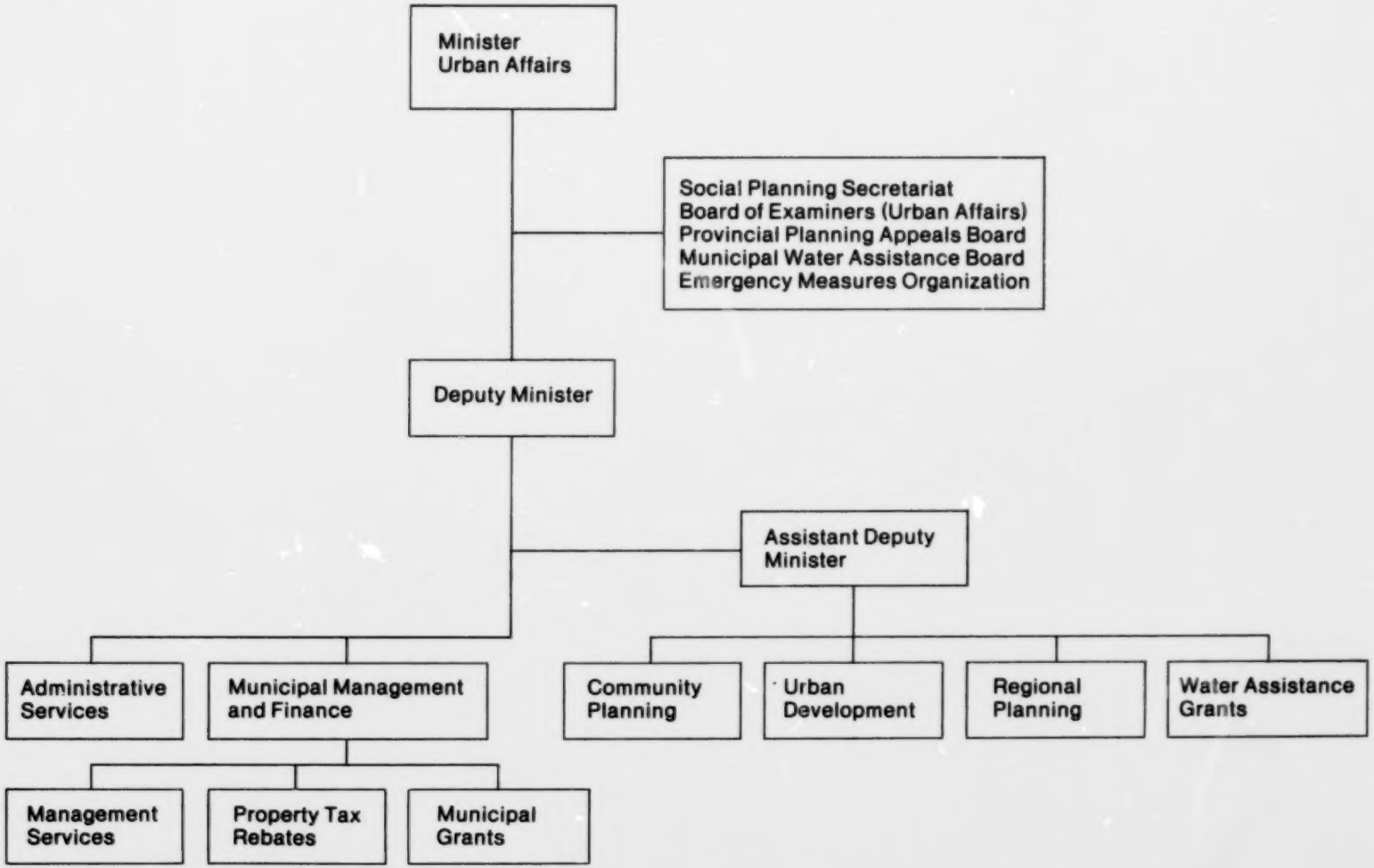
I have the honour of submitting the annual report of the Department of Urban Affairs for the year ending March 31, 1982.

Respectfully submitted,

D. M. Innes,
Deputy Minister of Urban Affairs.

Organization Chart



Administrative Services

The Administrative Services Branch provides central services for all branches of the department. This includes accounting, personnel recruitment, mail and duplicating, information and library services, purchasing of equipment, supplies and stationery, and budgeting and budgetary control. The branch is also responsible for equipment inventory, space requirements, furniture placement and assigned CVA vehicles.

The branch also provides support services to the following agencies: Saskatchewan Assessment Authority, Saskatchewan Assessment Appeal Board, Board of Examiners (Urban Affairs), Provincial Planning Appeals Board, Social Planning Secretariat, and the Urban Law Review Committee.

Personnel

The total number of permanent positions at March 31, 1982, was 145. The following table shows the number and distribution of positions at year-end.

Branch	Regina	Districts	Total
Administration	22	3	25
Municipal Management & Finance Division			
— Management Services	10	—	10
— Municipal Grants	10	—	10
— Property Tax Rebates	28	—	28
Community Planning & Technical Services	17	7	24
Implementation of Qu'Appelle Agreement	4	—	4
Emergency Measures Organization	4	—	4
Urban Development	18	—	18
Regional Planning	11	1	12
Social Planning Secretariat	8	—	8
Sask. Assessment Appeal Board	2	—	2
Total	134	11	145

During the year under review the Municipal Assessment Branch was dissolved and the Saskatchewan Assessment Authority formed. This involved the transfer of 110 permanent positions from the Department to the Authority.

The following personnel with the department retired during the year with the number of years of service as indicated:

Adam A. Bishoff	16 years

Grant Payments

During the year under review $84,807,137 was disbursed to urban municipalities under various department programs. In addition, a total of $68,802,388 was paid out to individuals under the Property Tax Rebate programs. The following table shows disbursement by program:

Grants to Local Authorities

Neighbourhood Improvement Program		$ 333,841
Industrial Towns		35,000
Municipal Water Assistance Board		3,301,446
Urban Revenue Sharing — General	$51,345,852	
Urban Revenue Sharing — Ambulance	1,800,527	
Urban Revenue Sharing — Fire	267,905	
Urban Revenue Sharing — Recreation	496,956	53,911,240
Business Improvement Districts		177,414
Water Pollution Control Assistance		1,107,307
Water Development for Regional Economic & Drought Proofing		237,308
Meewasin Valley Authority		929,201
Wakamow Valley Authority		162,235
Community Planning Association of Canada		6,000
Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association		5,000
Miscellaneous Grants:		
— Planning Studies	28,430	
— Intergovernmental Committee on Urban and Regional Research	9,209	
— Intergovernmental Regional Planning Research	25,500	
— Melfort incorporation	144,530	
— Agricultural Service Centres Agreement	15,000	222,669
Urban Drought Relief		1,690,195
Implementation of Qu'Appelle Agreement		
— Community Development Assistance		176,000
— Waste Treatment		787,786
Community Capital Fund	16,065,021	
Lloydminster Water Supply Grant	1,452,000	17,517,021
Transit		
Municipal	3,266,036	
Disabled	941,438	4,207,474
Total		$84,807,137

Grants to Individuals

Property Improvement Grants	$43,365,908
Senior Citizens School Tax Rebate	20,185,397
Renters Property Tax Rebate	5,251,083
Total	$68,802,388
Total Grants disbursed by Urban Affairs	$153,609,525

Community Planning

The Community Planning Branch administers The Planning and Development Act and The Municipal Expropriation Act and their regulations for urban municipalities.

One function of the branch is to review and issue decisions on applications for subdivision of land in all urban municipalities, (except the Cities of Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert which have been designated approving authorities by the Minister) and in the six Special Planning Areas in the Qu'Appelle Valley.

In 1981-82, 677 decisions were issued on subdivision proposals; 671 approvals and six rejections. Because subdivision approvals are valid for only one year and require reapproval if not registered during the year, 23 reapprovals for proposals were issued.

During the year, the branch also approved six replotting schemes. The replotting procedure, under The Planning and Development Act is a convenient method of resubdividing areas that were previously subdivided in order to provide for a more economical and desirable design. The replotting mechanism is used in cases where some of the landowners in the area are not in favour of the proposal, but where the resubdivision is deemed to be beneficial to the area as a whole.

The branch also reviews and comments on referrals from the Community Planning Services Branch of Saskatchewan Rural Affairs dealing with subdivision applications and other matters of intermunicipal interest within 5 km of the corporate limits of a city 3 km of the corporate limits of a town and 2 km of the corporate limits of a village. During the fiscal year, 262 such referrals were processed.

A major function of the branch is to provide urban municipalities with professional planning and technical assistance in the development of municipal development plans or zoning bylaws. These documents provide the municipality with a guide for orderly development over a period of years. The branch also assists in the preparation of any required zoning bylaw amendments. During the year, 13 new zoning bylaws and 249 amendments to existing bylaws were prepared, reviewed and recommended for approval.

The branch administers the Public Reserve and Buffer Strip Regulations. Public Reserve lands are owned by the Crown but may be leased to local authorities for use as school sites, parks and recreational areas or other uses or, in some cases, sold or exchanged at the discretion of the Minister. During 1981-82, 140 applications were processed consisting of 19 leases for parks or recreational use, 47 easements over Public Reserves or Buffer Strips, 34 exchanges or transfers, 21 new Public Reserve and Buffer Strips and 19 other matters relating to Public Reserves and Buffer Strips.

Application for boundary alterations for urban municipalities are also reviewed by the branch and recommended to the Minister. Annexations were approved for three cities, 16 towns and eight villages.

Applications for change of status, after population and assessment criteria were met, were reviewed and recommended to the Minister. During 1981-82 eight status changes were under review. Of those, three were denied and five remained under consideration.

Seven proposals were approved under The Municipal Expropriation Act. The review of these issues dealt solely with planning concerns; matters such as compensation are resolved by the courts.

The Drafting Services function of the branch prepares and updates compiled plans for each urban municipality. Copies of these maps are available to the public and other departments and agencies. The drafting section prepared new compiled plans for six communities. Revisions consisting of 320 subdivisions, 91 Master of Title Orders, 44 annexations and 55 street and highway changes were made to existing compiled plans. Zoning district maps were also prepared or updated; 22 new zoning maps and 44 zoning amendments were processed during the year. In addition a number of concept plans and other visual aids were prepared for other sections of the branch.

The Community Planning Branch acts in an advisory capacity to municipal authorities, private developers and the public on matters relating to The Planning and Development Act and Regulations to ensure that proper planning principles are used.

Municipalities are offered assistance in a variety of areas including long-range planning, content of municipal development plans, preparation of zoning bylaws and amendments and the design of subdivisions. The branch may act as a consultant to a municipality or review a private consultant's work for a specified period on local planning problems. Technical assistance is available to municipalities from the branch on all aspects of community planning.

Municipal Management and Finance

The division comprises three branches responsible for municipal advisory services and provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements and any related research and planning activities. The branches are:

Management Services
Municipal Grants
Property Tax Rebates

Management Services

This branch is responsible for municipal advisory services and developing educational materials for upgrading municipal administration. The municipal advisory services staff assists municipalities and urban residents with day-to-day administrative problems and procedures related to municipal law, accounting and general administration. These activities include providing administrative interpretation of municipal statutes, providing draft model bylaws, providing staff support for seminars with municipal officials, and developing educational materials. During the year under review, this unit handled approximately 3,000 requests for assistance.

Advisory Services also is responsible for municipal inspections and the review of financial management procedures of municipalities. During the year approximately 350 municipal bylaws and approximately 900 tax abatement requests were reviewed for ministerial approval.

The advisory services staff also evaluates the financial position of urban municipalities and develops and implements uniform accounting and reporting procedures for urban municipalities.

During 1981-82, work continued on upgrading the written material on local government and procedures provided to municipal councillors and administrators. A comprehensive manual on municipal administration procedures was developed during the year and will be supplemented by timely and topical guides. The series of guides will continue as the need for information on a particular subject becomes apparent.

To improve educational opportunities for town and village administrators, the branch, in co-operation with Saskatchewan Continuing Education, has completed a "needs identification" study. The findings of this study are the first step in upgrading the local government administration program to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of local administrators.

Municipal Grants

This branch is responsible for the policy analysis and administration of the Revenue Sharing and Community Capital Fund programs. In addition, the branch provides information and analysis on provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements and analysis of municipal financial positions, capital expenditures and capital financing. A more detailed report of activity undertaken under the Community Capital Fund Program can be found on page 17 of this report.

Revenue Sharing

Revenue sharing is an arrangement under which the provincial government transfers a part of its revenues to municipalities on a consistent basis from year to year, in accordance with an escalator index designed to increase municipal revenues as the provincial economy grows.

Revenue sharing represents, with few exceptions, the total provincial contribution towards municipal operating services. If municipalities decide to provide new services or expand existing services, the revenue sharing grant represents the provincial contribution to these services.

The branch's responsibility for the development and administration of the urban revenue sharing program includes the unconditional grant and the three inter-municipal programs; fire protection, road ambulance, and recreation. The branch has a shared responsibility with the departments of Rural Affairs and Finance for the policy analysis of the escalator index for the two revenue sharing pools.

Escalator

The escalator index is calculated as the average of the year-over-year percentage changes in four major provincial tax bases; the personal income tax base, corporate income tax base, sales tax base, and the gasoline tax base. The various tax bases are defined in regulations as the federal basic tax allocated to Saskatchewan, corporate taxable income allocated to Saskatchewan, the value of retail trade, and the volume of fuel petroleum products sold in Saskatchewan. The escalator is applied to the total pool and not to the individual grants to urban municipalities. For 1981-82, the value of the escalator was 10.2 per cent, raising the total value of the urban pool to $53.9 million.

Distribution Formula

The basic, per capita, and foundation grants are unconditional and the municipality is free to use these funds according to its priorities. These grants account for approximately 95 per cent of the total pool. The inter-municipal programs are the only part of revenue sharing that are conditional.

The distribution formulae and the urban revenue sharing program are presented below:

Basic Grant

This grant is payable to all urban municipalities and is of considerable importance to very small communities. During the year under review, the basic grant was as follows:

Population	Grant
0 - 149	$1,650
150 - 299	2,200
300 or more	2,420

Per Capita Grant

Uniform per capita amount of $45.20 per resident, based on either the 1976 federal census or the 1979 municipal census.

Foundation Grant

The foundation grant is intended to equalize the ability of comparable communities to provide an average level of services. Approximately 85 per cent of urban municipalities receive a foundation grant.

Inter-Municipal Programs

Per capita grants for the provision of fire protection, road ambulance and recreation services.

Urban Revenue Sharing

	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
Unconditional	$43,358,797	$46,674,519	$51,345,852
Municipal Road Ambulance Program	1,367,758	1,499,609	1,800,527
Fire Protection	234,738	267,870	267,905
Recreation	257,481	477,237	496,957
Census	181,025	—	—
Totals	$45,399,799	$48,919,235	$53,911,241

Municipal Road Ambulance Program

Any urban or rural municipality is eligible for funding if it enters into a written agreement with one or more municipalities to establish a Municipal Road Ambulance District to provide ambulance service to its residents. Urban Affairs staff provides information and assistance to municipalities and ambulance boards in establishing and operating local ambulance districts. The district ambulance board is responsible for providing the ambulance service and must decide whether to contract with a private operator, hospital, community organization, or to operate the service directly.

The program is funded under revenue sharing with per capita grants provided to those municipalities participating in a road ambulance district.

As of March 31, 1982, there were 99 districts, comprised of 464 urban municipalities and 290 rural municipalities.

Year	Urban Municipalities	Rural Municipalities	Total
1979-80	$1,367,758	$795,608	$2,163,366
1980-81	1,499,609	748,191	2,247,800
1981-82	1,800,527	876,193	2,676,720

Inter-Municipal Fire Protection Program

A municipality that enters into a written agreement with one or more municipalities to provide fire protection services on a co-operative basis is eligible for funding.

As of March 31, 1982, 343 urban municipalities and 260 rural municipalities were participating in the program.

Grants are calculated on the basis of $1 per capita up to a maximum of $10,000. Since the inception of the program, grants have been paid as follows:

Year	Urban Municipalities	Rural Municipalities	Total
1979-80	$234,738	$199,457	$434,195
1980-81	267,870	213,560	481,430
1981-82	267,905	216,943	484,848

Inter-Municipal Recreation Program

Municipalities entering into a written agreement with one or more municipalities to share operating and maintenance costs of recreation facilities are eligible for funding. Recreation facilities are defined in the broad sense, to include facilities for sports, arts, culture and leisure time activities. The program does not apply to recreation facilities funded by other government agencies.

A per capita grant of $1 for the first 15,000 population, 75 cents for the next 15,000, and 50 cents for the population in excess of 30,000; and a basic grant of $100 will be paid annually to each municipality in the program.

As of March 31, 1982, 278 urban municipalities and 198 rural municipalities were participating in the program.

Year	Urban Municipalities	Rural Municipalities	Total
1979-80	$1,367,758	$795,608	$2,163,366
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As of March 31, 1982, 278 urban municipalities and 198 rural municipalities were participating in the program.

The grant is calculated on the basis of 50 per cent of actual expenditures made by a municipality with respect to an agreement, up to the maximum set out above.

Year	Urban Municipalities	Rural Municipalities	Total
1979-80	$257,481	$132,811	$390,292
1980-81	477,237	170,280	647,517
1981-82	496,957	192,393	689,350

Property Tax Rebates

The Property Tax Rebates Branch administers three property tax rebate programs; the Property Improvement Grant, the Senior Citizens School Tax Rebate, and the Renters Property Tax Rebate.

Virtually every household in the province is eligible for one of the rebates and over 400,000 applications were received in the year under review.

Property Improvement Grant

The Property Improvement Grant is paid to owners of dwellings, business buildings and/or farm property. In 1981, the maximum principal residence rebate was $230; the maximum farm rebate was $375; and the total maximum rebate for a family unit was $375.

During the 1981-82 fiscal year 215,435 Property Improvement Grants were approved, for a total payment of $43,365,908.

Senior Citizens School Tax Rebate

The Senior Citizens School Tax Rebate was paid to persons, 65 years or older, during the year who are owners of dwellings, business buildings and/or farm property. In 1981, the maximum principal residence rebate was $460; the maximum business rebate was $250; the maximum farm rebate was $605; and the total maximum rebate for a family unit was $605.

During the 1981-82 fiscal year 75,728 Senior Citizens School Tax Rebates were approved, for a total payment of $20,185,396.

Renters Property Tax Rebate

The Renters Property Tax Rebate is paid to persons who rent their principal residence. In 1981, the maximum rebate was $115.

During the 1981-82 fiscal year, 57,329 Renters Property Tax Rebates were approved, for a total payment of $5,251,084.

Regional Planning

The Regional Planning Branch administers the Regional Studies program and the Qu'Appelle Valley Land Use Planning program.

Regional Studies Program

The major objective of this program is the development of land-use management strategies for the urban-centred regions of the province.

The program began in late 1977 as part of the Canada-Saskatchewan Planning Agreement. Initially it concentrated on doing some research and analysis to develop a suitable information base. A series of land capability maps and background planning studies were prepared for the Regina-Moose Jaw, Prince Albert and Saskatoon regions.

During 1980 and 1981, intensive consultations were conducted with the Ministerial Advisory Committees in the Regina and Saskatoon regions. These committees, composed of representatives from 35 urban and rural municipalities, were to advise the government on land-use problems and solutions in the Regina and Saskatoon regions.

The advisory committees submitted their reports in the fall of 1981. These reports contained recommendations on land-use policies on several issues as well as recommendations regarding future intermunicipal planning organizations.

During 1981-82, the branch also completed land-use maps, identified changes in land cover and compiled an inventory of community and regional infrastructure for the heavy oil area of west-central Saskatchewan.

The branch continued to provide financial assistance to the Prince Albert District Planning Commission to assist its efforts with intermunicipal planning.

Qu'Appelle Valley Land Use Planning Program

The Qu'Appelle Land Use Planning Program is part of the Canada-Saskatchewan Subsidiary Qu'Appelle Agreement. The program's objective is to achieve long-term land-use management in the valley. The current Qu'Appelle Valley Special Planning Areas include part or all of 40 urban and rural municipalities along the valley.

The SPA's were established in 1977 for an interim period under the provisions of The Planning and Development Act to allow the formulation and implementation of comprehensive land-use policies.

In March 1982 a series of public meetings was held by the SPA commissions to discuss the draft land use plans and to obtain public input. The branch assisted the commissions in processing more than 650 development applications and subdivision proposals.

Two computerized data information systems were established for the program to allow quick access to the land-based data used in evaluating applications and to generate maps and statistical reports needed for preparing future land-use plans.

The existing interim development controls under the Qu'Appelle Valley SPA regulations are intended to end June 30, 1982. The branch is assisting the six SPA commissions and 40 involved municipalities in identifying the best possible method of administering the final land-use plans on a permanent basis.

Urban Development

The Urban Development Branch administers a number of conditional grant programs including:

- Main Street Development program;
- Industrial Towns program.
- Municipal Transit Assistance and Transit for the Disabled programs; and
- Urban Parks.

In addition, the branch participates in initiatives relating to downtown revitalization, urban park studies and rail relocation.

Main Street Development Program

The Main Street Program encourages the revitalization of main street business districts through incentive grants to municipal councils. It encourages local business people to work together with their municipal council to devise and implement a scheme to revitalize their main street business areas. 1981-82 was the fourth year of the five year program.

The program is jointly administered by the Departments of Urban Affairs and Industry and Commerce. Urban Affairs provides a per capita grant to business improvement districts (BIDs) to make improvements to public properties. Industry and Commerce provides a grant for businesses to assist with storefront renovations.

During 1981-82 BID grants from Urban Affairs were approved for communities totalling $189,414. Conceptual planning and design assistance was provided to 44 communities. More than $553,000 was spent on public area improvements in 1981-82 as a result of the program.

Industrial Towns Program

This program provides special financial and administrative assistance to towns and villages requiring rapid and major expansion of their basic infrastructure in order to accommodate significant population growth associated with the location of a specific industry in or near the community.

The Town of Coronach received $35,000 in Industrial Towns grants in 1981-82 to assist its efforts in dealing with the impacts of the SPC Poplar River power plant and mine. These monies contributed towards retiring of debenture debt on water and sewer infrastructure.

Urban Transit

On the basis of policy development undertaken in the preceeding year, Saskatchewan Urban Affairs' Urban Development Branch assumed responsibility for administering the provincial government's financial assistance for urban transit in April 1981. Two municipal funding programs were introduced — the Municipal Transit Assistance program and the Transit for the Disabled program.

Under the Municipal Transit Assistance Program, almost $3.3 million was paid to seven cities and two towns to help support the operation of public transit services and contribute to the cost of various improvements to transit systems.

Municipalities receiving grants to acquire new buses included Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Swift Current and the Battlefords. Another project of particular note was Regina's renovation to the former Merchant's Bank building as a transit information centre adjacent to the Cornwall Centre downtown revitalization project.

As a result of studies partially funded by this program, transit services were reorganized in Moose Jaw and Regina. And, in response to the increased provincial operating assistance, Prince Albert introduced evening bus service in the fall of 1981.

Participation in the province's Transit for the Disabled program increased from seven communities prior to 1980 to 30 by the end of 1981-82. Almost $940,000 in grants was paid to municipalities under this program in 1981-82. This included $475,000 covering the province's 75 per cent share of the cost of acquiring 25 new wheelchair lift-equipped buses and vans to provide transit services for the disabled and elderly. Municipalities operating or introducing such services range in size from the largest in Regina to the Town of Elrose, with a population of 624. Significant financial and other assistance was also provided for purchasing new vehicles by Saskatchewan's Kinsmen Foundation in conjunction with this program.

Urban Parks

The branch is responsible for administering the Province's financial participation in the Meewasin Valley Authority in Saskatoon and the Wakamow Valley Authority in Moose Jaw. In addition to the annual statutory grants to assist with the Authorities' operating budgets, the Province provided a $107,700 land acquisition grant to the Meewasin Authority and a $50,000 capital start-up grant to the Wakamow Authority.

During 1981-82, in response to a request from the City of Prince Albert, the branch cost-shared an urban park study, the Little Red River Study, with the City. Study participants also include the R.M. of Buckland, the R.M. of Prince Albert, the Wahpeton Indian Band and the Department of Tourism and Renewable Resources. The study examines the potential park and related uses of the river edge and forested belt, north of Prince Albert. Study completion is expected in 1982.

During 1981-82, as well, the branch entered into preliminary discussions with the City of Swift Current for an urban parks study. The study is expected to get formally underway sometime in 1982-83.

Other Projects

Rail Relocation

The branch continued to be involved in work related to rail relocation projects proposed for Regina and Yorkton.

In June 1981 the federal government announced it would contribute financially to Phase 1 of the City of Regina's railway relocation program. This culminated efforts by the City and Urban Affairs spread over a number of years to obtain federal funding for this project.

The branch also continued to work with the Transportation Agency of Saskatchewan and the City of Yorkton, regarding the proposed relocation of the CP line and yard bisecting that community.

Downtown Revitalization

In 1981-82, the branch continued to work with a number of communities faced with proposals for peripheral shopping mall development and with deterioration of the downtown shopping districts. Provincial assistance was made available for municipal land assembly of a downtown redevelopment site in the City of Prince Albert, where the Gateway North Plaza opened in the fall of 1981.

Similar offers of assistance have been made to the cities of Saskatoon and Swift Current. In Swift Current progress toward a downtown revitalization project was hampered by high interest rates and the inability of the developer to secure commitments from a major retail store tenant.

Water Assistance Grants

During the fiscal year ending March 31, 1982 the Water Assistance Grants branch was formed, consisting of a director and six staff members.

The branch was responsible for the administration of the following programs in 1981-82.

- Municipal Water Assistance
- Urban Drought Relief
- Water Pollution Control Assistance

The branch also participated in the following federal-provincial programs:

- Qu'Appelle Implementation Agreement
- Agricultural Service Centres Agreement
- Canada-Saskatchewan Interim Subsidiary Agreement on Water Development

The branch also distributes the National Building Code to municipalities and reviews building bylaws submitted by municipalities.

Municipal Water Assistance

Under the jurisdiction of the Municipal Water Assistance Act, the Municipal Water Assistance Board provides financial assistance for the establishment or extension of water or sewerage systems in towns and villages, or in rural municipalities on behalf of hamlets.

Grants are calculated at 50 per cent of eligible costs which are defined to be those costs of water and sewage facilities that can not be assessed under the Local Improvements Act. Interim financing charges are considered eligible costs. Regulations allow for a cumulative total grant of $300,000 to municipalities for capital water and sewage works. In addition, a total of $300,000 is available to each municipality for water supply pipelines in excess of one mile in length.

During the 1981-82 fiscal year, the Board met once and reviewed 250 applications for assistance. Grants totalling $3,301,446 were approved for 45 towns, 61 villages and 16 hamlets.

The following table shows the breakdown of assistance provided during 1981-82:

	Number	Grants
Towns	45	$2,032,906
Villages	61	996,927
R.M.'s	16	271,613
Total	122	$3,301,446

Urban Drought Relief

During the year under review, grants totalling $1,690,195 were paid to 141 municipalities for water supply improvements to alleviate drought-related water supply shortages. The grants were calculated at 50 per cent of project costs. During 1981-82, this program was extended to the end of December because of drought conditions that prevailed during the first half of the year. A total of 110 applications were approved under the extended program.

Water Pollution Control Assistance

Under the jurisdiction of the Water Pollution Control Assistance Act, the branch provides financial assistance to Saskatchewan cities that improve or expand their sewage treatment facilities. During the year, assistance totalling $1,107,307 was paid to North Battleford, Regina, Yorkton and Lloydminster. The grants cover up to 15 per cent of the final eligible costs.

Qu'Appelle Wastewater Treatment

Under the federal-provincial Qu'Appelle Implementation Agreement, this program provides funding to municipalities in the Qu'Appelle Valley drainage system, to construct facilities that reduce the nutrient-loading of sewage disposed in the system and improve the environment of the drainage basin. During the year, a total of $787,786 was paid to Moose Jaw, Fort Qu'Appelle and Katepwa Beach.

Agricultural Service Centres Agreement

This program is jointly administered by Saskatchewan Urban Affairs and the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) and assists communities of over 2,000 in population (except Regina and Saskatoon) with water and sewer projects. The program includes 26 urban centres and has a total allocation of $28 million. The program expires March 31, 1983.

Canada-Saskatchewan Interim Subsidiary Agreement on Water Development

This program provides assistance for water supply facilities for certain designated municipalities in the province. PFRA constructs the projects and pays 50 per cent of the costs. The municipality and province are responsible for the provision of land and the remaining 50 per cent of the cost of construction. During the fiscal year, the province paid $237,308 to projects underway in Weyburn, Kipling and Birch Hills.

Other Activities

During the year, the branch was represented on the Steering Committee of the Regina-Moose Jaw Long Term Water Supply Study. A payment of $33,292 was provided as a 50 per cent contribution towards water quality testing and technical assistance carried out by the Saskatchewan Research Council. The remaining 50 per cent was paid by the two cities.

A special grant of $1,452,000 was provided to the City of Lloydminster for construction of a water supply project. Lloydminster has experienced very rapid growth due to heavy oil development and major water supply changes were needed.

Board of Examiners (Urban Affairs)

The Board of Examiners (Urban Affairs), appointed under the provisions of The Department of Urban Affairs Act, is responsible for the issuance of certificates of qualification to clerks, treasurers, and secretary treasurers of urban municipalities and to other persons who qualify for these offices.

The board was split into two separate boards on April 15, 1981. One board was named "Board of Examiners (Rural Affairs)", the other board named "Board of Examiners (Urban Affairs)".

The board consists of three members. One member, who serves as chairman, is appointed from the staff of the Department of Urban Affairs. One nominee is from the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association and one nominee from the Urban Municipal Administrators Association.

As at March 31, 1982, the members of the board were:

D. W. Bennett, Chairman
K. Green, Rosetown, representing UMAA
T. Hart, Weyburn, representing SUMA

The board secretary is Ms. C. Schwindt of Urban Affairs.

During the year two meetings were held at which the following certificates were granted:

1 Urban "Superior A" Certificate; no applications denied
11 Urban "A" Certificates; 4 applications denied
no Urban "B" Certificates were applied for
33 Urban "C" Certificates; 2 applications denied

Community Capital Fund Program

The Community Capital Fund Program is a five-year program which commenced on April 1, 1980. The purpose of the program, established under *The Community Capital Fund Program Act* is to assist municipalities with the acquisition or construction of capital works or the purchase of equipment.

All cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities, on behalf of hamlets within their boundaries, are eligible to receive a maximum of $100 per capita over the term of the program.

The grant can cover up to 60 per cent of the eligible cost of a specific project, but cannot exceed the municipality's share of the project cost. On projects where additional assistance is received from other federal and provincial grant programs, total grants, including the Community Capital Fund Program grant, cannot exceed 75 per cent of a project's cost.

In addition to providing unconditional capital financial assistance to municipalities, the program is designed to encourage long-term capital planning by communities. In this way a municipality can choose the projects it wishes to undertake and determine its priorities and source of financing.

Pursuant to *The Community Capital Fund Program Act*, all applications must be reviewed by a committee and recommendations made to the Minister for approval or denial of the project applications.

During the first two years of the program, grants totalling $27,664,276 were distributed among the following categories of municipalities:

Class of Municipality	Number of Municipalities		Number of Projects		Grant Payments	
	1980-81	1981-82	1980-81	1981-82	1980-81	1981-82
City	10	11	48	53	$ 6,353,590	$ 8,824,777
Town	67	96	161	219	4,052,743	5,104,258
Village	94	156	158	278	1,140,107	1,942,437
R.M. (hamlets)	15	40	20	52	52,815	193,549
Totals	186	303	387	602	$11,599,255	$16,065,021

The purposes for which the Community Capital Fund Program money has been utilized by municipalities in the first two years of the program are listed below:

Project Type	1980-81	(%)	1981-82	(%)	Cumulative Total	(%)
General Government Services (including municipal office buildings and equipment)	$ 969,383	(8.4)	$ 1,935,198	(12.1)	$ 2,904,501	(10.5)
Protective Services (including firefighting and police facilities and equipment)	753,136	(6.5)	1,617,352	(9.8)	2,370,488	(8.6)
Transportation Services (including street and sidewalk improvements, bridges, parking, airport and buses)	5,013,086	(43.2)	5,242,696	(32.7)	10,255,782	(37.0)
Environmental Health Services (including water, sewage, and waste disposal)	1,846,311	(15.9)	4,647,459	(29.0)	6,493,770	(23.5)
Public Health and Welfare (including hospital facilities and health clinics)	324,827	(2.8)	—	(0)	324,827	(1.2)
Environmental Development Services (including trailer courts and senior citizens' housing)	15,767	(.1)	7,564	(0)	23,331	(.1)
Recreational and Cultural Services (including recreational and cultural facilities — rinks, libraries, etc.)	2,676,744	(23.1)	2,614,752	(16.4)	5,291,496	(19.1)
Totals	$11,599,255*	(100.0)	$16,065,021*	(100.0)	$27,664,275*	(100.0)

* figures may not total exactly due to rounding.

Emergency Measures Organization

The Saskatchewan Emergency Measures Organization was first established in 1951 as the Civil Defense Branch in the Office of the Premier. In 1961, the name was changed to the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) and later transferred to Saskatchewan Municipal Affairs.

The general objective of the EMO is to develop overall plans to ensure the survival and recovery of Saskatchewan residents and their communities from any emergency or disaster; and to ensure provincial planning is compatible with national emergency planning.

Emergency planning takes place at both the municipal and provincial level. Liaison is maintained with all levels of government as well as the private sector to co-ordinate the best possible use of available manpower and resources in case of emergency or disaster.

Total expenditures by EMO, during the year under review were $252,494 with the following breakdown:

Provincial EMO Expenditures		$117,957
provincial share	$68,357	
federal share	$49,600	
Municipal EMO Expenditures		$ 86,000
municipal share	$37,723	
federal share	$48,278	

Training

During the year under review, EMO conducted two training courses (one on search management and one on dangerous goods) attended by 76 people. An additional 48 people attended federally-sponsored courses in Ottawa.

EMO continued to supply up-dated information on dangerous goods to holders of the "Dangerous Goods Response" manual produced last year.

It has also encouraged continued participation of provincial and municipal representatives in federal "Transportation of Dangerous Goods" courses conducted at Arnprior, Ontario. In addition 28 municipal representatives were sent on dangerous goods courses to Denver, Colorado to further develop emergency response capabilities to dangerous goods incidents.

Emergencies and Disasters

There were no major emergencies or disasters in the province during the year. Minor emergencies such as snow storms, blizzards, tornadoes, floods, power failures, etc., were dealt with at the municipal level.